PRESIDENT: On account of the shortage of iron and steel materials and other things the policy of the Government of India is, as far as possible, to encourage the production of gas driven vehicles. But that is quite different from laying down a general rule and asking other States to follow that rule.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: Now that there is petrol rationing, may I know from where the Director expects to get Rs. 4,00,000 worth of petrol?

MR. E. G. SALTER: From the usual source.

PRESIDENT: The Government of India has been very kind in that respect. They have realised that in a State like Travancore which is denied other means of communication, where there are not many bullock carts and where horses do not thrive on account of the climate, the only refuge is petrol driven cars. Therefore, they have been pleased to allow us just the sufficient quantity of petrol. But that does not mean that we can be extravagent. We have done very much better than other units.

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND XIX—EDUCATION EXCLUDING GRANT TO THE TRAVANCORE UNIVERSITY.

MR. A. GOPALA MENON (*Director of Public Instruction*): Sir, I rise to move for a Supplementary Grant of Rs. 69,972 under Demand XIX—Education excluding Grant to the Travancore University, for additional expenditure under Grant-in-aid to Malayalam and Tamil Schools. Sir, the position of certain primary classes both in Primary and Secondary Schools has been very unsatisfactory because funds were not available to give aid under the rules to the teachers of those classes. Up to 1115 an attempt was made to utilise the available resources to award fresh grants and even at that time it was only possible to award grants to classes which have been recognised before 1111. Grants could not be given owing to the inadequacy of funds and as a result of subsequent deliberations Government have now decided to grant aid to the teachers of those primary classes in Primary Schools as well as Secondary Schools who are eligible for aid under the rules. The number of such teachers who deserve aid is not as many as those that are actually employed and the amount required for the purpose has been calculated only for those that deserve aid. That is, 822 teachers alone can be given aid this year according to the rules. As I said, the grant falls under two sections; under primary and middle schools. In primary schools the amount required is Rs. 62,236 and in the Middle Schools, Malayalam and Tamil school education, the amount is Rs. 7,736. In all, therefore, I move that Government be granted a supplementary demand of Rs. 69,972.

MR. P. SIVARAMA PILLAI: May I know whether all recognised schools will be given grants?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: All recognised schools, recognised and complete before Adi 1117.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know the total number of teachers in primary classes under private management, who do not get any grant-in-aid just at present?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: The total number has been estimated to be 1714.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know the reason in not proposing to give grants to the remaining persons?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: They have not become eligible for the grant under the rules. A school must be a complete Primary School before aid is given.

PRESIDENT: Before putting this to the vote I should like to announce to the honourable House the intention of the Government in regard to Primary Education. A class of teachers in Primary Schools have been very conspicuously brought to the notice of the Government. These poor people are supposed to get salaries from 8 to 10 rupees but really they draw only Rs. 3 or Rs. 4 per month and the rest of the money goes into the pockets of various functionaries up to the Manager. Taking everything into account, as soon as possible, when the present strain in the food supplies is over, Government propose to take under control the entire Primary Education of the State so that every teacher would be a Government servant. The scheme will be spread over a period of years and when it is properly matured, it will be put forward.

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND XXIII.—UPLIFT OF BACKWARD COMMUNITIES.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARN PILLAI: Sir, I move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 5,000 under Demand XXIII—Uplift of Backward Communities. Sir, in extension of the policy of Government to give greater facilities to the pupils belonging to the Backward Communities, it is now proposed to start two hostels for those pupils who have been granted the benefit of full fee concessions. These hostels are to be started one in North Travancore, *viz.*, at Kottayam and another in South Travancore, *viz.*, at Nagercoil. It is well known to the honourable members of this House that there are no facilities for hostel accommodation for the pupils of the Backward Communities who have to shift for themselves or be accommodated in hostels intended for particular communities. This is only the first step in a comprehensive scheme and the expenditure on this account will come to about Rs. 5,000 which I hope the House will sanction.

The motion was put and carried.

The grant was made.

DEMAND XXIV—MEDICAL.

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKAR (*Secretary to Government*): Sir, I move for a grant of Rs. 9,000 under Demand XXIV—Medical. This amount is required to give credit to the Forest Department on account of the free grant of timber to the Shashtiabdapoorthi Memorial Committee, Alleppey for the construction of a new out-patient block and a general ward in the District Hospital there. As the invoice for the

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly